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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/13/2016

TAGS: PREL UN AM

SUBJECT: ARMENIA NONCOMMITTAL ON SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE

NEXT UN SECRETARY GENERAL

REF: STATE 22833

Classified By: Pol/Econ Chief C. Doell for reasons 1.4 (b, d).

(C) We delivered reftel points to Armenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs International Organizations Department Chief Valery Mkrtumyan February 13. Mkrtumyan agreed in principle that the appointment process for the next UN Secretary General should be based on individual qualifications rather than regional considerations. He noted, however, that "the Asian nations" were pushing hard for an Asia-specific "regional rotation." Armenia had not yet identified possible candidates for the next UN Secretary General, Mkrtumyan said, but would carefully consider U.S. suggestions.